

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-18 have been examined in the present application. Claims 4 and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Claims 1-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Perri, et al. (U.S. 2001/0020231). Claims 1, 4, 10 and 13 have been amended hereby. Claim 19 has been added hereby. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and below remarks.

As an initial matter, Applicant kindly requests the acknowledgement of the claim for priority and submission of documents filed on July 18, 2002. Please find enclosed a copy of the stamped postcard indicating receipt of certified copies of the priority documents.

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 4 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for containing subject matter not disclosed in the specification. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Applicant respectfully submits that the subject matter “information of a favor” is supported in the specification at least on page 3, line 27; page 4, line 7 and page 6, line 14. For a more idiomatic use of the English language and in order to better describe the Applicant’s invention, Applicant has amended claims 4 and 13 replacing “information of a favor” with “information of a preference.” Applicant notes that supplying the preferences of a second user for clothing and the like is supported on Page 9, lines 7-11 of the specification. (“...information of, for example, a hobby, a shop that the user A frequently uses, favor for clothes, and the like, etc..”).

Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to correct syntactical errors, and claim 19 has been added to more fully describe Applicant's invention. Applicant notes that support for currently new claim 19 is found in the specification at least on page 4, lines 6-11 and page 6 lines 10-24.

Applicant respectfully submits that the amendment of claims 1, 4, 10 and 13, do not change the scope of these claims.

Claims 1-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Perri. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Amended claim 1 explicitly requires "introducing means of said first user for introducing a second user to the information provider, as a target utilizing said service site for providing information." Applicant respectfully submits that this feature of the present invention is neither taught nor suggested by Perri.

In Perri the first user contacts the second user. (See Perri paragraph 0014). In contrast, in Applicant's invention, as recited in amended claim 1, the first user does not contact the second user; instead, the first user contacts a service site and gives information about the second user.

Perri discloses a compensation system and a marketing network that allows a first party to send a message to a second party, wherein the message includes a link to a processor and the link has a sponsor identifier, having the second party select the link to contact the processor, correlating the first party with the second party, and providing credit to the first party for an activity of the second party. (See Perri paragraph 0014).

Applicant respectfully submits that a first user sending a second user a message including a link to a processor, as disclosed in Perri (Perri paragraph 0014), is completely different from a first user accessing a service site in order to introduce a second user as a target, as claimed in amended claim 1 of Applicant invention. For at least this reason, withdrawal of the rejection of amended independent claim 1 on the basis of Perri is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 2-9 are directly or indirectly dependent on and include all of the limitations of amended base claim 1. Therefore, all of the above arguments regarding independent claim 1 apply equally to dependent claims 2 through 9. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claims 2-9 on the basis of Perri is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim 10 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over Perri. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 10 explicitly requires that “said first user’s introducing a second user to the information provider, as a target utilizing said service for providing information.” Applicant respectfully submits that this feature of the present invention is neither taught nor suggested by Perri.

As mentioned above, in Perri the first user contacts the second user. (See Perri paragraph 0014). In contrast, in Applicant’s invention, as recited in claim 10, the first user does not contact the second user, instead the first user contacts a service site and gives information about the second user.

Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claims 10 on the basis of Perri is therefore respectfully requested.

Dependent claims 11-18 depend on and include all of the limitations of amended base claim 10. Therefore, all of the above arguments regarding claim 10 apply equally to dependent claims 11-18. Withdrawal of the rejection of dependent claims 11-18 on the basis of Perri is therefore respectfully requested.

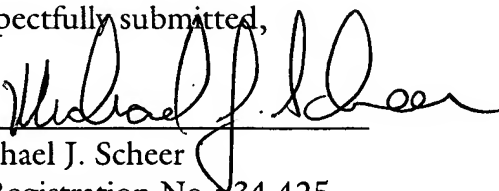
New claim 19 recites "a data collection means for allowing a first user to access the service site for providing information about a second user, wherein the first user is acquainted with the second user." Applicant respectfully submits that this feature of the present invention is neither taught nor suggested by Perri.

As described above, in Perri the first user contacts the second user. (See Perri paragraph 0014). In contrast, in Applicant's invention as recited in claim 19, the first user does not contact the second user; instead, the first user accesses a service site and provides information about a second user with whom he is acquainted. Therefore, for at least this reason, claim 19 is patentable over Perri.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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